



Peterborough Victoria  
Northumberland and Clarington  
Catholic District School Board



Catholic Parent  
Engagement Committee

# Agenda

## CATHOLIC PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, June 1, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.

By Google Meet: <https://meet.google.com/cxt-wrpc-wkj>

**Please note:** If you would like to join by phone, please contact Michelle Kennedy by email - [mkennedy@pvnccdsb.on.ca](mailto:mkennedy@pvnccdsb.on.ca) or at 1-800-461-8009 ext. 1247. Arrangements to join by phone must be made prior to 5:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting.

**Members/Trustees who are unable to attend are asked to please notify Michelle Kennedy, Administrative Assistant 1-800-461-8009, or 705-748-4861, ext. 1247 or by email: [mkennedy@pvnccdsb.on.ca](mailto:mkennedy@pvnccdsb.on.ca)**

**Chairperson: Jennifer Ball**

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### A. Call to Order:

1. Opening Prayer – Father Paul Massel
2. Land Acknowledgement - We acknowledge that we are meeting on the traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabe.
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest
5. Approval of the Minutes of the April 20, 2020 meeting.
6. Business Arising from the Minutes

### B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:

1. Director's Update on School Closure:
  - ♦ Continuity of Learning program.
  - ♦ Planning for re-opening.
  - ♦ Planning for retrieval of personal property and return of board property.
  - ♦ Overview of Summer ProgramsMichael Nasello, Director of Education.

### C. Information Items:

1. Meeting Schedule for 2020-2021.
2. Ontario PIC Connection meetings. (attachment)  
Jennifer Ball, Chairperson
3. Committee Member Updates.

**D. Next Committee Meeting/Special Events:**

1. Monday, September 28, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

**E. Conclusion:**

1. Closing Prayer – Father Paul Massel
2. Adjournment



# Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CATHOLIC PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CPEC) held on Monday, April 20, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. virtually, by Google Meet.

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**Present:** Linda Ainsworth(Trustee, Clarington), Jennifer Ball (CPEC), Bernita Blair(Parent), Julianne Charette (CPEC), Wayne Clarke(Principal), Michael DeMaeyer(Vice-Principal), Jennifer DeMaeyer(Principal), Michelle Flintoff (CPEC), Angela Gaskell(Parent), Lori-Ann Gervais (CPEC), Karen Goodhand(Parent), Michelle Griepsma(Trustee, Kawartha Lakes and Board Chairperson), Lisa Hiltz(CPEC), Amy Jonkers(Parent), Rachel Logan (CPEC), Kevin MacKenzie (Trustee, Clarington and CPEC), Fr. Paul Massel (CPEC), Bridget McCann-Girard (Principal), Julie McCarthy (CPEC), Tim Moloney(Superintendent), Michael Nasello(Director of Education), Allesandra Rowden(Parent), Sara Scott(Parent).

**Absent/Regrets:** Laura Bassett(CPEC), Christine Haffie(CPEC)

**Recorder:** Michelle Kennedy, Executive Assistant

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## CATHOLIC PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE –REGIONAL MEETING

The Catholic Parent Engagement Committee Chairperson, Jennifer Ball welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

Michael Nasello, Director of Education also gave opening remarks and respectfully acknowledged that the meeting was taking place on the traditional and treaty territory of the Mississauga Anishnaabeg.

Father Paul Massel, Board Chaplain was called upon to open the meeting with prayer.

### CPEC BUSINESS MEETING:

#### A. Call to Order

Jennifer Ball, Chair of the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee called the business meeting to order.

#### 1. Approval of Agenda

**MOTION:** Moved by Lisa Hiltz, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie

that the agenda be approved with the addition of item C.1, Update from OAPCE.

Carried.

2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3. Approval of the CPEC Meeting held on February 3, 2020.

**MOTION:** Moved by Rachel Logan, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie

that the minutes from the meeting held on February 3, 2020, be approved.

Carried.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:**

1. May 20, 2020 – Craig Keilburger Event Update.

Michael Nasello, Director of Education gave an update on the event that was planned for with Parents Reaching Out Grant funds in May, 2020. Craig Kielburger was contracted to speak at the annual appreciation event that was to be held at Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, the event is not able to be held. There was discussion about the options available with consideration for the funding that was allotted for this event. It was noted that the WE organization has confirmed that Mr. Kielburger is available to commit to the same event, one year hence.

**MOTION:** Moved by Kevin MacKenzie, seconded by Julie McCarthy

that the Craig Kielburger presentation be moved to May 19, 2021.

Carried.

2. Director's Report on Board Initiatives – PVNC Learn @ Home.

The Director of Education Michael Nasello reported about the creation and implementation of PVNC's Learn@Home program which is now in its third week. The program is a

continuity of learning approach to engage learning at home to a certain number of hours a week as mandated by the Ministry of Education.

At the beginning of the school closure, a survey was sent to all families in the board to determine technology needs. Nine thousand families completed the survey and provided useful information that enabled Information Technology staff, with the assistance of other staff and administration, to collaborate and worked diligently, using the public health protocols to get technology distributed to students, where needed.

He reported that teachers have entered a new world of teaching through google classroom. The board is proud of staff for the outreach that they have done and everyone is working to resolve issues where they have occurred. For elementary teachers and students, the main focus is on numeracy, literacy and religion. Secondary school teachers are working through their regular course work. The various stresses that families are under are recognized as there has been loss of employment, parents working from home, and many stressors related to scheduling so that students can be connected to their teachers and peers.

Mr. Nasello also reported that changes have been made to the usual school and board activities celebrated during the upcoming Catholic Education Week at the beginning of May. The Catholic Student Leadership Awards will take place virtually. The award winners who have been selected in each school will be celebrated on Twitter on Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. A video message from Bishop Daniel Miehm will be shared during the televised Mass on Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

During this time of school closure, the board has participated in outreach to our communities. In lieu of expenses for breakfast programs that would have normally happened in our schools, which are funded by a number of resources, the amounts of money that were not spent have been donated to local foodbanks. This has resulted in \$21,000 in donations to all four regions of the board. As well, personal protection equipment (PPE) that were in all of our facilities for various reasons were inventoried and supplies were collected and delivered to hospitals in all regions and also to Hospice Peterborough.

Following his report, the Director answered questions.

### 3. Parent Engagement – Next Steps.

The CPEC Chairperson, Jennifer Ball led a discussion to determine next steps in parent engagement during this unprecedented time. Some suggestions generated from the discussion were:

- Virtual Town Hall - an opportunity to get parent questions answered. Parents are becoming more adept and virtual meetings are less daunting because of this forced experience. CPEC has always struggled with working with the distance barrier to engage parents in the past. Virtual meetings may help to overcome that barrier.

- Questions to parents about how learn at home is working for them. Pre-recorded and/or a live Q & A session could be helpful to parents.
- Information for Parents for assistance with technology. Perhaps pre-recorded teaching sessions or YouTube videos giving information about how to help their children with technology/connection issues.
- Further communication to parents, i.e. good news stories of what has happened so far during Learn@Home.

#### 4. CPEC Model for 2020-2021

Jennifer Ball, CPEC Chairperson led a discussion about use of the regional meeting format during the 2019-2020 school year for CPEC meetings. The continuation of the same format was discussed. It was noted that the conduct of meetings in different regions honours the large geography of the Board and the committee liked that meetings weren't exclusively at the Board Office. There was also discussion about the consideration of conducting meetings using a combination of in-person and streaming formats. It was suggested that parents may be more apt to join due to new comfort with technology.

### **C. Information Items:**

#### 1. Update from OAPCE

Michael Nasello reported that correspondence from the OAPCE Board of Directors was received in February and confirmed that PVNC will not have an official connection with OAPCE this year.

### **D. Next Committee Meeting/Special Events:**

#### 1. Next Meeting:

Monday, June 1, 2020, 6:30 p.m. – To be held by Google Meet.

### **E. Conclusion:**

#### 1. CPEC Business Meeting Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Julie McCarthy, seconded by Rachel Logan

that the meeting adjourn at 7:41 p.m.

Carried.

Following the CPEC Business meeting, parents who were present were invited to participate in a discussion using the following guiding questions:

- a) What is working well at your school?
- b) What is an area of need for support?

It was recognized that there are few Catholic School Council meetings and no events happening during the school closure. There was discussion amongst parents who were present about the activities that were happening with the Learn@Home program. Many of the attendees shared things that their schools were doing to connect the school community. As well, there was discussion about events being hosted on social media by speakers such as Paul Davis and Sarah Westbrook that could be of interest to parents.

There was discussion about the varying family situations, for example health care worker experiences at this time and how their families are being accommodated.

Parents expressed the hope that graduations and proms will be postponed rather than cancelled outright.

The CPEC Chairperson, Jennifer Ball thanked everyone for participating in this meeting. She then invited Father Paul Massel to conclude the evening with prayer.



Catholic Parent  
Engagement Committee

~ Meeting Dates for 2020-2021 ~

Monday, September 28, 2020	Catholic Education Centre, Peterborough	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Monday, November 2, 2020	Regional Meeting, City of Kawartha Lakes – St. Thomas Aquinas CSS and Feeder Schools	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Tuesday, February 16, 2021	Regional Meeting, Peterborough – Holy Cross CSS and St. Peter CSS and Feeder Schools	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Wednesday, March 24, 2021	Regional Meeting, Clarington – Holy Trinity CSS and St. Stephen CSS and Feeder Schools	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Monday, April 19, 2021	Regional Meeting, Northumberland – St. Mary CSS and Feeder Schools	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Wednesday, May 19, 2021	Event: Craig Kielburger – “The World Needs Your Kid” Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Monday, May 31, 2021	Catholic Education Centre, Peterborough	6:30pm – 8:30pm

May 27, 2020

The Honourable Stephen Lecce  
Minister of Education  
5th Floor, 438 University Avenue  
Toronto, ON M5G 2K8  
VIA EMAIL: Minister.edu@ontario.ca

**RE: FOLLOW-UP TO 23 APRIL 2020 PIC CHAIR TELECONFERENCE**

Dear Minister,

Arising from the April 23rd Ministry of Education virtual meeting with Parent Involvement Committees (PICs) and Board superintendents collecting feedback on PIC function and Learn-At-Home implementation – we note it has been some time since PIC Chairs have been consulted on a wide scale collective basis. We thank you and the Ministry staff for acknowledging and taking action to the feedback as noted in your May 8th update letter to Ontario District School Boards and School Authorities.

No event or time in recent history has required and demanded as much parent involvement as we are now experiencing with Learn-At-Home due to the COVID-19 impact. These are truly unprecedented times in the province, country and around the world. In school boards, planning and reaction is occurring real-time, making stakeholder engagement more challenging. Disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic calls for increased two-way communication with parents and parent groups in each and every school board.

Following the April Ministry-facilitated meeting, more than twenty-four PIC Chairs continued the conversation virtually, meeting with each other to share challenges, successes, and potential gaps in supporting, encouraging and enhancing parent engagement at our school boards. We are committed to continuing this on a periodic basis.

As PIC Chairs united across the province, we agreed to share the following observations and recommendations to the Minister of Education:

1. We recognize the importance of Parent Involvement Funding to support parent engagement and input on curriculum goals. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and schools being closed for the remainder of the school year, it is even more important that parents be brought back into the fold and engaged in constructive ways to support the new reality of how classrooms and schools will likely have to operate for the foreseeable future.
  - i. *We are requesting confirmation that all unused Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants allocated to Ontario School Boards be carried over from the 2019-2020 school year and also that the new funding be allotted as would be expected in the GSNs for 2020-2021.*
  - ii. *Additionally, we request that all unused Parent Involvement Funding both for PICs and local school councils be carried over from the 2019-2020 school year and also that the new funding be allotted as would be expected in the GSNs for 2020-2021.*
2. As Minister of Education, you have mentioned that within stakeholder groups; the parent voice is important to hear. Parent Involvement Committees and local School Councils are formal channels to collect and channel parent input. We also note that the Ontario “School

Councils: A Guide For Members” published by the Ministry of Education in 2001, has not been updated since 2002.

- i. We respectfully request that as Minister, you restart the Ontario Parent Council and seek to appoint members from School Board PICs to advise on additional best practices and possible legislative changes within O. Reg 612 to better support PICs and School Councils.*
3. Effective Parent Involvement Committees adds positively to school board governance and enhance best practices and consistency between school boards to ensure that Parent Voice and support to School Councils is as valuable as it can be. In order to support positive PIC function and connections between PIC Chairs:
  - i. We request that the Ministry of Education facilitate a province-wide PIC symposium to be held (virtually during the 2020-2021 school year and then again physically during the 2021-2022 school year).*

We thank you, the Ministry, and the Premier for your dedication to keeping Ontario’s school children safe and for keeping parents across the province informed on major programming and decisions that affect school function.

We look forward to continued dialogue and continue to be here to advocate in the best interest of all our children through the active participation of parents in supporting improved student achievement and well-being at the school level and at the board level in each of our respective school boards.

Sincerely,

The undersigned Ontario Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) Co/Chairs

Alain Bellefeuille UCDSB PIC	Heather McAuley WECDSB PIC	Krista Tomini SMCDSB PIC	Melissa Bevan DCDSB CPIC	Steve Schwippl BGCDSD PIC
Alison Marshall RCDSB PIC	Ingrid Lambie YRDSB PEAC	Kristen Siapas GECDSB PIC	Mellisa Gallagher RRDSB PIC	Tiffany Sherwood DDSD PIC
Brian Conley DSBONE PIC	Jennifer Ball PVNCCDSB PIC	Laurie Murray NPSCDSB PIC	Monique Dufresne RRDSB PIC	Tracey Machan LKDSB PIC
Crystal Bevans-Leblanc Limestone DSB PIC	Jennifer Cox Avon Maitland DSB PIC	Lee-Anne Kerr HPEDSB PIC	Mostafizur Khan OCDSB PIC	Valerie Estridge DDSD PIC
D. Williams TDSB PIAC	John Del Grande TCDSB CPIC	Linda Gregorio WCDSB CPIC	Sabena Islam Limestone DSB PIC	Zena Shereck TDSB PIAC
Darryl P. Nohara NCDSB PIC	Julie Marshall CDSBEO PIC	Lindsay Stewart PSSBP PIC	Sarah Nichol GEDSD PIC	
Danielle Magvas KPRDSB PIC	Kathleen Holmstrom KCDSB CPIC	Lisa Mooney DSBN PIC	Sarah Thomson TVDSB PIC	
Erin James KPDSB PIC	Kelly Schultz HPCDSB CPIC	Mandi Bond WRDSB PIC	Shaun Peirce Lakehead DSB PIC	
Gerry Bergin HCDSB CPIC	Kelly Verdecchia HSDSB PIC	Mangaljit Dabb PDSB PIC	Shazia Hassan PDSB PIC	